

Who Do You Say That I Am?

Seeing and Delighting in Jesus through an Expositional Journey through the **Gospel of Matthew** 165- The Planting of the Father Cannot be Uprooted

Church September 13, 2026

Matthew 15:10-14

10 After Jesus called the crowd to Him, He said to them, "Hear and understand.

11 It is not what enters into the mouth that defiles the man, but what proceeds out of the mouth, this defiles the man."

12 Then the disciples came and said to Him, "Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this statement?"

13 But He answered and said, "Every plant which My heavenly Father did not plant shall be uprooted.

14 Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if a blind man guides a blind man, both will fall into a pit."

*To the Glory of God the Father; God the Son;
and God the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

When I built a House- back in 1987- it was in the County; and we had to install a very large septic System. And after we had been there for several Years, that System failed- and I had to get another much *larger* one. And to do that required that I dig a Trench so long and so wide and so deep; put certain pipe in it; and fill the Trench with a certain size Gravel.

And whoever dumped that Gravel in my yard did a sloppy Job and so, I had rocks all over my Yard! So, then I couldn't mow my Yard- because the lawnmower would hit a rock and sling it through a Window. So, one Monday Morning, as I was leaving to go to my Business- I asked my oldest Son- who was around 11- to please pick up the large rocks in the Yard- so, I could mow. He said he would, and so, I left.

But when I got back Home- I noticed that NONE of the Rocks had been picked up! So, I walked into the House- looking for my Son- who I knew had to be very Sick or near Death- because that had been why he had not done what I had asked him to do. And when I walked into his Room- he smiled and came and

hugged me and said, *"Look, Dad! I cleaned up my whole Room today- even the Closet!"*

Now it's hard to be Angry with an 11 year-old Boy- who is so Proud that he has cleaned up his whole Room- even the Closet. So, I told him how Proud I was of him and then we went to eat Supper. And, afterward, as we were helping Rhonda clear the Table- I told Joseph, *"Son, I really need for you to pick up the rocks tomorrow- so I can mow on Saturday."* And he said, *"Sure, Dad, I'll do it tomorrow."*

So, Tuesday Morning came and I left for work- after reminding Joseph that I needed the rocks picked up. But when I got back Home- I saw that NOTHING had been done! So, now I'm getting Mad. And as I walked into the House- Joseph met me and said, *"Look Dad, I helped Mom organize the Pantry today. She really needed some Help; and it took all Day. Come look at it- it looks real nice doesn't it?"*

So, now I'm wondering what had happened to my Son- because somebody had obviously taken my 11 year old Son and replaced him with a very nice Philadelphia Lawyer, who was standing in front of me- smiling! He had worked *hard* all Day. And he had done something that actually *needed* to be done. So, he wasn't just goofing off. But he had NOT done the ONLY thing I *asked* him to do!

So, I took him outside and showed him all the rocks in the Yard. And I said, *"Joseph, I want to mow the Yard this Weekend- but if you don't pick up these rocks- I can't mow! Would you please pick up the rocks?"* And he said, *"Sure, Dad, first thing in the Morning!"*

So, when I left for Work Wednesday Morning, I made sure that Joseph understood that he was to pick up the Rocks in the Yard. But when I came Home that Evening- my Son met me at the Door, took me by the hand, and showed me the Garage that he had cleaned and organized and swept. I mean, it was spotless! And it was obvious that he had worked very hard- all Day!

But he had NOT done what I told him to do. It seemed that he was willing to do anything except what I told him to do. And that Fact didn't please me at all. And so, I was very Angry at him. And I never gave him any praise for what he did do. I simply took him by the Hand and went outside and showed him the Rocks. Then I got the wheelbarrow; the rake and the shovel and handed them to him and I said, *"If you don't pick up the Rocks tomorrow- you're getting punished!"* But he tried to argue with me, *"But Dad, look at all I did! I worked hard doing all that- why aren't you pleased with all the Work I did?"* And I replied- *"You DID do a lot of Work- but you didn't do the ONLY thing I told you to do! I'm glad that you worked hard to do all that other stuff- but I want you to obey your Father and pick up the Rocks!"*

The next Day as I was driving in from Work- I saw my Son out in the Yard- raking and shoveling and picking up the Rocks! He was NOT a “Happy Camper”- he was hot and sweaty and tired- but he was Obedient! And from that Day until now- “*Picking up the Rocks!*” has been a Theme in our Family- about the huge Difference between being Busy- doing all sorts of things- and obeying the Father!

Now I believe that what was going on with my Son is Normal. I believe that, because of the “Fall”- what our heavenly Father asks us to do- is the very thing we dread; and the very thing that brings us NO Joy in doing. And so, we are willing to do almost *anything*- EXCEPT- what God tells us to do! And I don’t think that’s True with just a *few* people- I think it’s True with everybody! I think- us NOT seeing any Delight in what God has *commanded*- is part of what it means to be a “*Rebel*”; and “*Fallen*”; and a “*Sinner*”! Whatever the Father *requires*- is the very Thing we *despise* and *rebel against*! And that’s NOT Worship!

And the ONLY thing that fixes that- is Salvation. Inherent in the Miracle of the New Birth- is the radical Transformation of the human Nature- from being Fallen to being a “new Creature”. And it is that new Nature- that loves God and loves the Things of the Spirit of God- that makes the Commandments of God to no longer be “Burdensome”. The Apostle John infallibly wrote this in **1John 5:1-5:**

1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him.

2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments.

3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.

4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

5 Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

So, here, the Apostle was “moved” by God the Holy Spirit to say that our Love for God is expressed through our Obedience to what God says- which are His Commandments. And so, Obedience IS Worship and Worship IS Obedience. You can’t separate them! One doesn’t exist without the other.

But as I have told you before- there are at least *three* different Kinds of “Obedience” that human Beings carry out:

1. Fearful Obedience
2. Dutiful/Obligatory Obedience

“*Fearful Obedience*” is when a person obeys what God says- but the Reason he obeys- is because he is scared that by NOT obeying- God will judge him. So, this Person’s Obedience is motivated by Fear.

“*Obligatory or Dutiful Obedience*” is when a Person obeys God- because it’s the “*Right thing to do*”. So, this Person obeys out of “Duty” or out of his “Obligation” that he believes he has toward God- because God saved him. So, this Person “owes” God his Obedience- and thinks that expecting something in Return from God because of his Obedience- is Unnecessary- even Wrong. And my Son migrated between those two kinds of Obedience.

But we must say that both Fearful as well as Dutiful or Obligatory Obedience- is a genuine Obedience. And because of that- both of these kinds of Obedience is head and shoulders better than DISobedience! It is *always* better to obey out of Fear or Duty than it is to disobey God- *always*! And so, even though these kinds of Obedience are better than Disobedience- I do NOT believe that neither one of them- is BEST!

Because there is a *third* Kind of Obedience- one that I believe the Bible teaches. And this is a “*Joyful Obedience*”! And this Person obeys God because he knows that God’s white-hot Desire to be glorified is the SAME as our Desire to be Happy. That it is God, Who put the Desire in every human Being on earth, who has ever lived; who is alive right now; and who will ever live in the Future- to be Happy.

And because that is True- EVERYTHING we do; EVERY Choice we make; EVERY Decision we engage in- is based on one, single Criteria: “*What will make me Happy?*” That’s why people get Drunk; that’s WHY they take drugs; that’s WHY they murder someone else; that’s WHY they rob Banks; that’s WHY they lie; cheat; and steal; that’s WHY they commit Adultery; that’s WHY they are Unfaithful to their Spouse; that’s WHY they make Idols and serve them; that’s WHY they take God’s Name in Vain; that’s WHY they dishonor their Parents; that’s WHY they covet; and that’s WHY they blaspheme God! They believed that, by doing those things- it would make them Happy!

But that’s also WHY People, who have personally experienced the Miracle of the New Birth- strive to obey God! You see, because they have that new Nature- they *hunger and thirst* for “Righteousness”! And they *know* that “*Righteousness*” is the Product of their “*Obedience*”. And the ONLY Way they know WHAT God wants them to obey- is by reading and studying the Bible. And as they read the Bible- they come across Passages like:

Deuteronomy 28:47&48

47 “Because you did not serve the Lord your God with joy and a glad heart, for the abundance of all things;

48 therefore you shall serve your enemies whom the Lord will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in the lack of all things; and He will put an iron yoke on your neck until He has destroyed you.

1Chronicles 16:10

Glory in His holy name; Let the heart of those who seek the Lord be glad.

Psalm 5:11

But let all who take refuge in You be glad, Let them ever sing for joy; And may You shelter them, That those who love Your name may exult in You.

Psalm 16:11

You will make known to me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; In Your right hand there are pleasures forever.

Luke 6:22&23

22 Blessed are you when men hate you, and ostracize you, and insult you, and scorn your name as evil, for the sake of the Son of Man.

23 Be glad in that day and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. For in the same way their fathers used to treat the prophets.

John 8:56

Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.

John 15:11

11 These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

John 16:24

Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full.

John 17:13

But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves.

2Corinthians 2:3

This is the very thing I wrote you, so that when I came, I would not have sorrow from those who ought to make me rejoice; having confidence in you all that my joy would be the joy of you all.

Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

1Thessalonians 5:16

Rejoice always;

The Revelation 19:7

Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready.

I believe that the Bible teaches- *clearly and repeatedly*- that it is God's Will for genuinely saved people to be the *happiest* People on Earth! Because first of all, their Sins have been forgiven; ALL of God's Wrath against them has been FOREVER removed; and so, now they have a Home in "Glory-land" that outshines the Sun!

But those same People also understand that God WANTS them to possess- NOT merely a *surface* or a *temporary* or some sort of a *fleeting* Joy- it isn't silly or frivolous. God desires them to possess the FULLNESS of Joy! And this is a deep, "*Serious Joy*" that will allow Believers to rejoice in Persecutions- even when they are burned at the Stake! And the Commandments of God are the "*Pathway*" to that Full Joy!

And so, they *strive*! They *war* and *wrestle* and *fight* and they *strive* against the Lusts of their unconverted Flesh. They *wrestle* against the Desires and Cravings that reside inside their cursed Bodies. And they *war* against the Temptations of both satan as well as their own earthly Temples. WHY? So, they may *humbly and joyfully* submit- *unconditionally*- to the Authority of the Scriptures- in their daily Lives! And they do this- *continually*- by the indwelling Power of God the Holy Spirit! And they see two Things as being the "End- Result" of ALL their Effort:

1. The Glory of God
2. The Pursuit of the Fullness of their own Joy

And I would suggest to you that this is the biblical Definition of "*Worship*"! This everyday "*Striving*"; this ongoing "*Wrestling*"; this continual "Fighting and Warring"- is what genuine "Spirit and Truth Worship" looks like in a Believer's Life!

So, in the Bible- things like "Love" and "Worship" and "Obedience" and "Joy"- are all wrapped up together! And that means that "*Disobedience*"- rebelling

against what God has spoken- *proves* that we do NOT love God. And so, God measures our Love; our Devotion; and our Ability to see God as the Treasure of the Universe- by how MUCH; how OFTEN; and to WHAT EXTENT- we *obey* Him- *joyfully*! And that's WHY in **John 14:15**, Jesus said,

If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

... where BOTH Love and Obedience are together. And in **John 15:10**:

If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

...and then He followed that up by saying,

These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full. (John 15:11)

Now, ever since verse 1 of **Matthew 15**- the *primary* Subject that the Apostle Matthew wants us to see is what *genuine* Worship looks like. And the Pharisees and Scribes were very Busy. They had read every verse of all 39 Books of the Old Testament. And many of them had *memorized* entire Books and a few of them had *memorized* all 39 Books- which to me, is Incredible! So, they were *very* Busy- doing all sorts of things- trying to *earn* God's Favor. But they were NOT doing the one, single thing the Father told them to do: Love God and obey Him out from that Love!

So, the Scribes and Pharisees measured the "Genuineness" of Worship- by HOW MUCH and HOW OFTEN the people adhered to their external Man-made Rituals and Unbiblical Ceremonies- that God didn't authorize and that God didn't bless.

But Jesus exposed their Ungodly Teaching by showing that all the external Trappings of Purity and Holiness- that Man can invent and create- have NOTHING to do with real Holiness; real Righteousness; nor with the real Worship of God! And that's because it isn't based in any real Love for God!

Now it is very Important for us to understand that the Scribes and Pharisees were NOT simply putting forth a different Opinion from Jesus. They didn't have a "new Slant" on Holiness and Worship. And they were NOT simply "operating outside the Box"- offering a "new Perspective" on how to honor and please and magnify God.

No, those Men were Evil! Those Men were Unsaved; Lost; false Teachers, who were going headlong into Damnation themselves- and were leading other

people into Damnation as well! The Scribes and Pharisees were WRONG about EVERYTHING concerning God! So, of all the people in Israel, in the 1st Century- the Scribes and Pharisees were the *furthest* AWAY from God!

All of the Effort by those Men over the past 400 years of their Existence- had culminated in them *creating* a completely different Religion- that had NOTHING to do with what God had given to Moses in the Old Testament and one that couldn't forgive a single Sin or save a single Soul!

And Jesus knew that! And so, from "Day One"- Jesus *confronted* them to their Face. And He *rebuked* them; *chastised* them; and showed them *irrefutable* Proof that they couldn't have been more Wrong! Our Lord NEVER agreed with these Men and, in many Cases- taught the people- exactly the Opposite of what they were teaching!

For Example, in the "*Sermon on the Mount*"- Jesus said,

For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. (Matthew 5:20)

... and as I have said over and over and over again- as you read the four Gospel Records- you can almost sense the Hostility that existed between the sinless Lamb of God and these religious Frauds.

So, after Jesus exposed their silly, external Man-made cleansing Ceremony- and after confronting and rebuking them about the legal Gimmick of putting their Money into a "Trust"- so that they wouldn't have to care for their Parents- Jesus went into an Explanation about HOW human Beings are "Defiled", when He said this in **Matthew 15:17-20**:

17 Do you not understand that everything that goes into the mouth passes into the stomach, and is eliminated?

18 But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man.

19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.

20 These are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man."

This Teaching by Jesus is both Profound as well as very, very Simple. Because ALL of Mankind is already "Fallen"- Jesus said that what comes out from the corrupted human Heart- is what defiles us. And that's why the Lord spoke infallibly through the Prophet to say this from **Jeremiah 17:9**:

The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it?

... so, we CANNOT trust our Hearts!

What we can trust- is what God has spoken in Scripture! And that will tame our Hearts and transform it! So, satan CANNOT make or Force anyone to do anything to anybody. ALL that Temptation is- is satan giving us an Opportunity to do- what we *already* want to do- anyway- because of the Lust that is *already* in us!

James 1:14&15 says:

14 But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

15 Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

... where the half-Brother of Jesus talked about, “**our own lust**”- the Lust that *already* resides or dwells in the unconverted Flesh of EVERY human on Earth- Saved or Lost.

The Bible and Christianity teach that in order for evil People to no longer BE Evil- they MUST understand that their Heart is *always* Corrupt and Unreliable. And so, the *deeper* a Person looks into their Heart- the MORE Evil they will see! So, we NEED a *new* Heart and God sovereignly gives that in the Miracle of the New Birth!

So, God’s primary Goal in all things- is a genuine “Spirit and Truth worship of Him”! Which is WHY the ONLY thing we will do in Heaven- is Worship God! Ultimately, when ALL Sin is removed- all that is left- is Worship! And that is WHY ALL genuinely redeemed souls- worship God! So, God created “Evangelism”- the heralding of the Gospel- to exist- where “Worship” does NOT already exist. Because God desires to be “glorified” (lovingly and joyfully obeyed) by ALL the Nations of the World! And God also desires that the true Worship of Him- the *loving* Obedience to Him- by ALL the Nations of the World- will make them Glad!

So, back in the 1st Century, the Jewish people were drifting further and further AWAY from God and the Truth of Worship. As Time went on- led by unsaved and evil spiritual Frauds- the Jewish people were becoming more and more “Pagan”. They WERE worshipping. They were very busy *worshipping*. But they were NOT worshipping God! And that’s what happens when Truth is NOT preached and taught. Because we are “Fallen”- People do NOT become more “Secular” with the Absence of Truth- they become more Pagan!

But the ONLY Way to fix that Problem- is to insert Truth. Absolute Truth. Divine Truth. But what was the Result of Jesus teaching this? Did the Scribes and

Pharisees see the Folly of their Ways? Were they Convicted? And did they Repent?
NO! please look again at verse 12:

Then the disciples came and said to Him, "Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this statement?"

So, instead of being Convicted of inventing a ridiculous religious Ritual that had NO Power to cleanse the human Heart; instead of being Convicted of teaching people their own Man-made, false Religion; and instead of being Convicted of being Lost themselves- those religious Hypocrites became Offended! But they weren't Offended because Jesus was Mean or Cruel or Hateful. Those Men were Offended at pure, godly, divine Truth- taught by the ONLY Sinless Man, who ever lived!

Now "Offense" is a real thing. And Offense is a Good thing- when it is connected to the correct Act. For Example, every Christian in this nation *should be* "Offended" that about 1,130,000 human Beings were *intentionally* murdered in the United States in 2025 by medical Professionals, who had taken an Oath to "*First, do no Harm!*" And those Babies were murdered in the most brutal and violent Way imaginable! And the Babies who were slaughtered were mostly Female and mostly Black! And this happened AFTER "*Roe versus Wade*" was struck down! So, we have NOT won that War- NOT by a long-shot!

So, we all should be Offended at this racist; misogynistic, intentional Holocaust of over a million human Beings- by them either being burned to Death with Saline or chopped into pieces and extracted with a "surgical hoe"! THAT SHOULD Offend us!

And we should be Offended that after 100 Years of godless Feminists- indoctrinating Women in this Country about the "*Lie of Equality*"- MORE Women were abused; MORE illegitimate Births took place; MORE Abortions were carried out; MORE STD's were contracted; and MORE Divorces happened last Year- than ever before! And so, in spite of Woman's Liberation being promoted and taught constantly- Women are far WORSE off now- then *before* the Indoctrination! And we SHOULD BE offended at that!

And we SHOULD BE offended at spinless Politicians who *refuse* to stop spending us into Oblivion- that causes the Inflation that we now live under! And we SHOULD BE offended at Adults and so-called "Experts", who have No Idea what a Woman is; and WHY it might be a Bad Idea for impressionable Children to be recruited into taking Hormones and mutilating their Bodies! And we SHOULD BE Offended at sexual Deviations being *promoted* and *normalized* in our Country! And we SHOULD BE Offended at how easy it seems to be for

people, who lay claim to be saved- to use the *filthiest* Language that would make a drunk Sailor blush with Embarrassment! And we SHOULD BE Offended at how many people, who will tell you they have been born again- who have NO Desire to read and study the Bible or faithfully attend Church! So, there is MUCH that we SHOULD BE Offended at!

But what we SHOULD NOT and MUST NOT *ever* be Offended at- is the Truth! ALL we have- is the Truth! And if we ever lost the Truth- we will have lost EVERYTHING! Truth is our Best Friend; and we should not just *know* the Truth or even simply *believe* the Truth- but the Bible says we should LOVE the Truth (2Thessalonians 2:8-12)!

But this describes the Scribes and Pharisees to a “T”! They did NOT *love* the Truth- they didn’t even KNOW the Truth! And so, when Jesus taught contrary to their false teaching- instead of being Convicted and instead of repenting- they were Offended! But then please look closely at verses 13&14, where Jesus responded to the Offense that the Scribes and Pharisees had against what He had taught:

But He answered and said, "Every plant which My heavenly Father did not plant shall be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if a blind man guides a blind man, both will fall into a pit.

... so, Jesus now clearly teaches that the Scribes and Pharisees have NOT been “**planted**” by the Father and that they WILL be “**uprooted**”!

Then Jesus told His Disciples that the Scribes and Pharisees are “**blind Guides**”- who are seeking to lead others, who are also Blind. And Jesus said the End for them is that they BOTH will “**fall into a Pit**”!

Now please hear this. The word that was translated here in English as “**plant**” comes from a Greek word (*phuteuso*; Strong’s # 5452), and means: *to set; to plant; to figuratively establish or authorize*. So, Jesus is telling His Disciples here that both the Scribes and Pharisees were NOT simply Wrong about a few theological Points. He is NOT saying that those Men were just a “little bit off” in their spiritual Understanding. And our Lord also did NOT say here that those two Groups were very sincere Men, who just had a different Interpretation of Scripture from Jesus. And Jesus is also NOT offering them an Opportunity to repent!

NO! Jesus says here that these two Groups were completely Illegitimate! God did NOT *authorize* them- at all! God did NOT *establish* them- He did NOT *plant* them! They were operating OUTSIDE of God’s Authority and Blessings! And they had NO Business teaching *anyone* about *anything*! The Scribes and Pharisees had NOT been “**planted**” by God the Father!

Secondly, Jesus then promised that BOTH the Scribes as well as the Pharisees- would be “UPROOTED”! They would be pulled up- by the Roots and removed! And so, Jesus is promising them eternal Damnation! But the term, “uprooted” *assumes* that they have been illegitimately “planted” somewhere that they didn’t belong! So, WHERE were those two Groups planted?

Some would say, “the Earth!”; others would say, “Israel!” And BOTH are Fine- because they were NOT Authorized by God to teach anybody about anything- anywhere! But specifically, in keeping with the same Theme that has run through this amazing Gospel Record from the very Beginning- Jesus is teaching here that the Scribes and Pharisees will be “uprooted” from the “Kingdom of Heaven”! So, back in **Matthew 13**- when Jesus was teaching the “*Parable of the Tares and Wheat*”- He said,

Matthew 13:24b-28a

24 ... "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field.

25 But while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went away.

26 But when the wheat sprouted and bore grain, then the tares became evident also.

27 The slaves of the landowner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?'

28 And he said to them, 'An enemy has done this!'...

Jesus said an “**Enemy**” sowed or planted Tares into the “**Field**” or the “**World**” or the invisible and eternal “**Kingdom of Heaven**” that He was *establishing* on the Earth (in place of a restored Kingdom of Israel)- as the “*Sphere of Salvation*” in the *invisible* (genuine) Church.

So, it was satan- our Enemy- who “moved” on unsaved Jewish People to *tempt* them to sin against God- by *creating* the Ministry of both the Scribes and Pharisees during the “*Famine for hearing the Words of the Lord*” (the “*400 Years of Silence*”) that the Prophet Amos predicted would come (**Amos 8:11-14**).

But then Jesus said BOTH the Scribes and Pharisees WOULD BE “uprooted”- and *removed* from the “Kingdom of Heaven”! And in that same Parable, when the people asked the Owner of the Field,

Matthew 13:28b

... Do you want us, then, to go and gather them up?'

... but the Owner of the Field said,

Matthew 13:29b&30

29... No; for while you are gathering up the tares, you may uproot the wheat with them.

30 Allow both to grow together until the harvest; and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather up the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them up; but gather the wheat into my barn."

... and here in **Matthew 15**, after Jesus promised that BOTH the Scribes and Pharisees would be uprooted out of the Kingdom, Jesus said,

Matthew 15:14a

Let them alone ...

... which is almost identical to what Jesus said in **Matthew 13:30**:

Allow both to grow together until the harvest ...

... and then Jesus said it would be "Self-evident" that the Scribes and Pharisees were of satan and Illegitimate- because they were Blind- they would Fall into a Pit and take other deceived and unsaved people with them!

So, here in **Matthew 15**, Jesus is equating both the Scribes and Pharisees with the Tares of **Matthew 13**- that satan originated. And so, here Jesus is saying that the SAME Judgment that WILL come to the Tares- will also come to the Scribes and Pharisees! The Angels will come and remove them from the Kingdom- because God did NOT plant them! And THEN the Good Seed- who bear Good Fruit- may be gathered into the Barn!

So, the "Pattern" is always the SAME! God will remove the Evil- FIRST! And THEN the Righteous will shine in the Kingdom!

And this is in Fulfillment of what the Prophet spoke about 600 Years earlier- when he predicted Jesus' Ministry from **Isaiah 61:1-3**:

**1 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, Because the Lord has anointed me
To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the
brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to captives And freedom to prisoners;
2 To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord And the day of vengeance of our
God; To comfort all who mourn,
3 To grant those who mourn in Zion, Giving them a garland instead of ashes,
The oil of gladness instead of mourning, The mantle of praise instead of a**

spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness, The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.

Amen! Let's pray.

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your Pace. *Soli Deo Gloria!* To the Glory of God alone.